

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

**IN RE: JOHNSON & JOHNSON  
TALCUM POWDER PRODUCTS  
MARKETING, SALES PRACTICES,  
AND PRODUCTS LIABILITY  
LITIGATION**

This document relates to: Rebekah Mercer v.  
Johnson & Johnson, et al.

**MDL No. 2738 (FLW) (LHG)**

**SHORT FORM COMPLAINT  
AND JURY DEMAND**

The Plaintiff(s) named below file(s) this *Short Form Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial* against Defendants named below by and through the undersigned counsel. Plaintiff(s) incorporate(s) by reference the allegations contained in *Plaintiffs' Master Long Form Complaint* in *In re: Talcum Powder Products Marketing, Sales Practices, and Products Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 2738 in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. Plaintiff(s) file(s) this Short Form Complaint as permitted by Case Management Order No. 1 of this Court.

In addition to those causes of action contained in *Plaintiffs' Master Long Form Complaint*, where certain claims require specific pleadings and/or amendments, Plaintiff(s) shall add and include them herein.

**IDENTIFICATION OF PARTIES**

**Identification of Plaintiff(s)**

1. Name of individual injured due to the use of talcum powder product(s):

Rebekah Mercer \_\_\_\_\_.

2. At the time of the filing of the specific case, Plaintiff(s) is/are a citizen of

Mississippi \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Consortium Claim(s): The following individual(s) allege damages for loss of consortium: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Survival and/or Wrongful Death Claims:

Name and residence of Decedent Plaintiff when she suffered the talcum powder product(s) related death: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Plaintiff/Decedent was born on \_\_\_\_\_ and died on \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Plaintiff is filing this case in a representative capacity as the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, having been duly appointed  
as the \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ Court of \_\_\_\_\_.

7. As a result of using talcum powder products, Plaintiff/Decedent suffered personal and economic injur(ies) that are alleged to have been caused by the use of the products identified in Paragraph 16 below, but not limited to, the following:

  X   injury to herself  
       injury to the person represented  
       wrongful death  
       survivorship action  
  X   economic loss  
       loss of services  
       loss of consortium  
       other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Identification of Defendants**

8. Plaintiff(s)/Decedent Plaintiff(s) is/are suing the following Defendant(s) (please check all that apply)<sup>1</sup>:

- ☒ Johnson & Johnson  
☒ Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc.

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<sup>1</sup> If additional Counts and/or Counts directed to other Defendants are alleged by the specific Plaintiff(s) as to whom this *Short Form Complaint* applies, the specific facts supporting these allegations must be pleaded by the Plaintiff(s) in a manner complying with the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Defendants against whom they are alleged must be specifically identified on a separate sheet of paper attached to this *Short Form Complaint*.

☐ Imerys Talc America, Inc. (“Imerys Talc”)

☐ Personal Care Products Council (“PCPC”)

**Additional Defendants:**

☐ Other(s) Defendant(s) (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**JURISDICTION & VENUE**

**Jurisdiction:**

9. Jurisdiction in this Short Form Complaint is based on:

☒ Diversity of Citizenship

☐ Other (The basis of any additional ground for jurisdiction must be pled in sufficient detail as required by the applicable Federal Rules of Civil Procedure). \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Venue:**

10. District Court(s) and Division (if any) in which venue was proper where you might have otherwise filed this Short Form Complaint absent the direct filing Order entered by this Court and to where remand could be ordered by the Judicial Panel for trial:

United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi,  
Oxford Division

**CASE SPECIFIC FACTS**

11. Plaintiff(s) currently reside(s) in (City, State):

Hickory Flat, Mississippi.

12. At the time of the Plaintiff's/Decedent's diagnosis with a talcum powder product(s) injury, Plaintiff/Decedent resided in (City, State):

Hickory Flat, Mississippi.

13. The Plaintiff/Decedent was diagnosed with a talcum powder product(s) injury in (City/State): New Albany, Mississippi on April 10, 2018 (date).

14. To the best of Plaintiff's knowledge, Plaintiff/Decedent began using talcum powder product(s) on or about the following date: January 1986 and continued the use of talcum powder product(s) through about the following date: June 2017.

15. The Plaintiff/Decedent purchased talcum powder product(s) in the following (State(s)): Mississippi.

16. Plaintiff/Decedent used the following talcum powder products:

☒ Johnson & Johnson's Baby Powder

☒ Shower to Shower

### **CAUSES OF ACTION**

17. Plaintiff(s) hereby adopt(s) and incorporate(s) by reference the *Master Long Form Complaint and Jury Demand* as if fully set forth herein.

18. The following claims and allegations asserted in the *Master Long Form Complaint and Jury Demand* are herein adopted by reference by Plaintiff(s):

- ☐ Count I: Products Liability – Strict Liability – Failure to Warn (Against Imerys Talc)
- ☒ Count II: Products Liability – Strict Liability – Failure to Warn (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☐ Count III: Products Liability – Strict Liability – Defective Manufacturer and Design (Against Imerys Talc)
- ☒ Count IV: Products Liability – Strict Liability – Defective Manufacturer and Design (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☒ Count V: Breach of Express Warranties (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☒ Count VI: Breach of Implied Warranty of Merchantability (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☒ Count VII: Breach of Implied Warranty of Fitness for a Particular Purpose (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☐ Count VIII: Negligence (Against Imerys Talc)
- ☒ Count IX: Negligence (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☐ Count X: Negligence (Against PCPC)

☒ Count XI: Negligent Misrepresentation (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)

☒ Count XII: Fraud (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)

☐ Count XIII: Fraud (Against PCPC)

☒ Count XIV: Violation of State Consumer Protection Laws of the State of Mississippi (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants).

☐ Count XV: Fraudulent Concealment (Against Imerys Tale)

☒ Count XVI: Fraudulent Concealment (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)

☐ Count XVII: Fraudulent Concealment (Against PCPC)

☒ Count XVIII: Civil Conspiracy (Against All Defendants)

☐ Count XIX: Loss of Consortium (Against All Defendants)

☒ Count XX: Punitive Damages (Against All Defendants)

☒ Count XXI: Discovery Rule and Tolling (Against All Defendants)

☐ Count XXII: Wrongful Death (Against All Defendants)

☐ Count XXIII: Survival Action (Against All Defendants)

☐ Furthermore, Plaintiff(s) assert(s) the following additional theories and/or State Causes of Action against Defendant(s) identified in Paragraph nine (9) above. If Plaintiff(s) includes additional theories of

recovery, to the extent they require specificity in pleadings, the specific facts and allegations supporting these theories must be pled by Plaintiff(s) in a manner complying with the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff(s) pray(s) for relief and judgment against Defendants of compensatory damages, punitive damages, interest, costs of suit, and such further relief as the Court deems equitable and just, and as set forth in the Master Long Form Complaint as appropriate.

**JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff(s) hereby demand a trial by jury as to all claims in this action.

Dated: January 7, 2020

Respectfully Submitted by,

/s/ P. Leigh O'Dell

/s/ Brittany S. Scott

/s/ Lauren K. Razick

Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis  
& Miles, P.C.

**Counsel for Plaintiff(s)**